



#4
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Akiro Oosawa

Appln. No. 09/988,658

Group Art Unit: 2621

Confirmation No.: 8995

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: November 20, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING ANOMALOUS SHADOWS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/988,658

English Language Abstract JP 9091421, is submitted herewith as a concise statement of relevance of Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. 9-91421.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 8-77329 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,982,953. Additionally, English Language Abstract 08-077329 is submitted herewith.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 9-185714 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,141,437. Additionally, English Language Abstract 09-185714 is submitted herewith.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 8-272961 corresponds to U.S. Patent Nos. 6,014,474; 6,125,214; 6,125,215; 6,137,923; 6,169,823 and 6,233,362. Additionally, English Language Abstract 08-272961 is submitted herewith.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 9-248291 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,937,111. Additionally, English Language Abstract 09-248291 is submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/988,658
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Filing Date	November 20, 2001
First Named Inventor	Akira OOSAWA
Art Unit	2621
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	Q66559

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 6,014,474	A	01/11/00	TAKEO, et al
		US 6,125,214	A	09/26/00	TAKEO, et al
		US 6,125,215	A	09/26/00	TAKEO, et al
		US 5,937,111	A	08/10/99	YAMADA
		US 5,982,953	A	11/09/99	YANAGITA, et al
		US 6,141,437	A	10/31/00	XU, et al
		US 6,137,923	A	10/24/00	TAKEO, et al
		US 6,169,823	B1	01/02/01	TAKEO, et al
		US 6,233,362	B1	05/15/01	TAKEO, et al

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	9-91421	A	04/04/97		
		JP	8-77329	A	03/22/96		
		JP	9-185714	A	07/15/97		
		JP	8-272961	A	10/18/96		
		JP	9-248291	A	09/22/97		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		English Language Abstract JP 9091421, 04/04/97	
		Patent Abstract of Japan 08-077329, 03/22/96	
		Patent Abstract of Japan 09-185714, 07/15/97	
		Patent Abstract of Japan 08-272961, 10/18/96	
		Patent Abstract of Japan 09-248291, 09/22/97	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.